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EXAMINER

WYROZEBSKI LEE, KATARZYNA I

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1796

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Art Unit: 1796

In view of Applicants response to the final rejection dated 7/7/2008 an advisory action is hereby issued.

The applicants have added new claim to, which is much narrower in the scope than the independent claim 1. Specifically the difference lies in use of term "consisting essentially of" from "comprising". Such claim has not been given its required prosecution. Therefore, the amendment as provided will not be entered.

Prior art of BEREN – the applicants indicate that the prior art of BEREN does not disclose functionalized blend.

This is an issue that the examiner would like to discuss with the inventors if possible. BEREN discloses a polymer blend that comprises one functionalized polymer. There is no indication in the instant claims that every single polymer chain is functionalized. If applicants mix polymers and then functionalize them, then maybe prosecuting process claims instead of composition would be a better route.

The applicants argue that the prior art of BEREN does not teach branched polymers with required branching ration.

Instant claims specify that the branching index is either 0.98 or less or 0.95 or less. Term "or less" encompasses branching ratios of 0.

Art Unit: 1796

The applicants indicated that the combination of BEREN and KARADINIOS do not teach the instant invention. Per explanation above, the examiner disagrees.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Katarzyna Wyrozebski whose telephone number is (571) 272-1127. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 8:30 AM-2:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wu can be reached on (571) 272-1114. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Katarzyna Wyrozebski/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1796  
September 18, 2008